

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a below named inventor, I declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **CLUSTER TOOL SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR PROCESSING WAFERS** the specification of which   X   is attached hereto or        was filed on                      as Application No.                      and was amended on                      (if applicable).

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56. I claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

**Prior Foreign Application(s)**

Country	Application No.	Date of Filing	Priority Claimed Under 35 USC 119

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Application No.	Filing Date
60/190,278	03/17/2000
60/190,221	03/17/2000
60/202,495	05/05/2000

I claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application No.	Date of Filing	Status

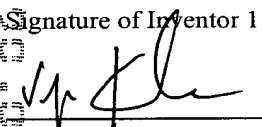
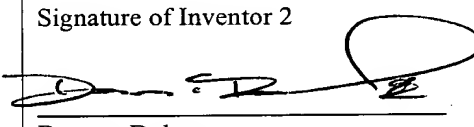
**POWER OF ATTORNEY:** As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Richard T. Ogawa, Reg. No. 37,692  
 Roger T. Barrett, Reg. No. 41,599  
 Lesley S. Craig, Reg. No. 26,578  
 Darin J. Gibby, Reg. No. 38,464  
 Chad S. Hilyard, Reg. No. 40,647  
 William F. Vobach, Reg. No. 39,411  
 Scott L. Ausenhus, Reg. No. 42,271  
 Thomas D. Franklin, Reg. No. 43,616  
 Patrick M. Boucher, Reg. No. 44,037  
 Ronald C. Gorsche, Reg. No.: 45,505  
 Douglas M. Hamilton, Reg. No. P-47,629

Send Correspondence to: <b>Roger T. Barrett</b> <b>TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP</b> <b>Two Embarcadero Center, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor</b> <b>San Francisco, California 94111-3834</b>	Direct Telephone Calls to: (Name, Reg. No., Telephone No.) Name: <b>Roger T. Barrett</b> Reg. No.: <b>41,599</b> Telephone: <b>303-571-4000</b>
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Full Name of Inventor 1:	Last Name: <b>VEPA</b>	First Name: <b>KRISHNA</b>	Middle Name or Initial:	
Residence & Citizenship:	City: <b>Livermore</b>	State/Foreign Country: <b>California</b>	Country of Citizenship: <b>India</b>	
Post Office Address:	Post Office Address: <b>1674 Vetta Lane</b>	City: <b>Livermore</b>	State/Country: <b>California</b>	Postal Code: <b>94550</b>
Full Name of Inventor 2:	Last Name: <b>DOBSON</b>	First Name: <b>DUNCAN</b>	Middle Name or Initial:	
Residence & Citizenship:	City: <b>Woodside</b>	State/Foreign Country: <b>California</b>	Country of Citizenship: <b>United States</b>	
Post Office Address:	Post Office Address: <b>129 Albion Avenue</b>	City: <b>Woodside</b>	State/Country: <b>California</b>	Postal Code: <b>94642</b>

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Signature of Inventor 1  Krishna Vepa	Signature of Inventor 2  Duncan Dobson
Date <b>02/20/01</b>	Date <b>02/20/01</b>

DE 7032939 v1

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS**  
**(37 CFR 1.9(f) & 1.27(c)) - SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN**

Applicant or Patentee: Krishna Vepa et al.  
 Application or Patent No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Filed or Issued: / /  
 Title: CLUSTER TOOL SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR PROCESSING WAFERS

I hereby declare that I am:

- ☐ the owner of the small business concern identified below:  
☒ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below.

Name of Small Business Concern: Wafer Solutions, Inc.  
 Address of Small Business Concern: 4576 Enterprise Street  
Fremont, CA 94538

I hereby declare that the above-identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR 121.12, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention, entitled CLUSTER TOOL SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR PROCESSING WAFERS by inventor(s) Krishna Vepa, Duncan Dobson described in:

- ☒ the specification filed herewith;  
☐ Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed / /;  
☐ Patent No. \_\_\_\_\_, issued \_\_\_\_\_.

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights in the invention is listed below\* and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person made the invention, or by any concern that would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d), or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

\*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Individual ☐ Small Business Concern ☐ Nonprofit Organization

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Individual ☐ Small Business Concern ☐ Nonprofit Organization

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Name of Person Signing: KRISHNA VEPA  
 Title of Person if Other than Owner: OWNER / CTO  
 Address of Person Signing: 4576 Enterprise Steet  
Fremont, CA 94538

Signature: [Signature] Date: 02/20/01